

LIFE AND SERVICES  
OF  
MAJOR ISAAC CRAIG.

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SKETCH  
OF THE  
LIFE AND SERVICES,  
OF  
**ISAAC CRAIG.**

MAJOR IN THE FOURTH (USUALLY CALLED PROCTOR'S)  
REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY, DURING THE  
REVOLUTIONARY WAR.

BY NEVILLE B. CRAIG. 1787, 1863

DESIGNED AS A CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL.

FROM THE  
AUTHOR TO HIS CHILDREN AND FRIENDS.

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## INTRODUCTION.

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THE history of this Sketch of the Life and Services of Major Isaac Craig may be briefly stated. The author, the eldest son of the subject of that sketch, has in his possession all the commissions granted during the Revolutionary war, to Isaac Craig, as Lieutenant and Captain of Marines, Captain of Artillery, and Major of the same ; also, various memorials addressed by him to the Marine Committee, the Commander in Chief, &c. in relation to rank and other matters ; all the important orders and letters addressed by superior officers, whether Washington, Gates, Irvine, George Rogers Clarke, or Brodhead, to him. Also, seven folio volumes of manuscript copies of the correspondence of Major Craig with the Secretaries of War and of the

Treasury, with the Quarter-Master Generals, with the Commanding Officers of the various military posts from Le Boeuf and Erie to Fort Massac and Fort Adams, on the Mississippi, during the twelve years from 1791 to 1803, and three bound volumes of letters from the above named persons to him, during the same period, being the time during which he held the posts of Deputy Quarter-Master, Military Store-Keeper, &c. at Pittsburgh.

All these commissions, memorials, orders and letters, except those in the ten bound volumes, he had secured in a port folio, which he intended as a gift to his son, the grandson and namesake of Major Craig. When, however, this was ready, it occurred to him that a brief sketch of the life and services of the grandfather, bound up with those documents, would render the gift more valuable and interesting.

This sketch was, therefore, begun and completed for that purpose, and as a slight tribute of affection and of respect to the memory of a most kind and indulgent parent. The author is free to confess, moreover, that he has some pride in his descent from a true patriot and faithful soldier, who always dis-

charged his duty in the arduous and protracted struggle which gave birth to this great nation, and was desirous that his services should not be forgotten by his grand-children, who are now in the full enjoyment of all those privileges for which he toiled and suffered.

Finally, after the sketch was completed, the thought occurred, that in its shape of a single manuscript copy, it could be in the possession of only one person ; while many of the descendants of the subject of that sketch, and of their friends, might also desire to possess such a notice of a man who was engaged, and manfully performed his part, in the first maritime expedition ever undertaken by our young Republic, and in the capture of a large amount of military stores—the importance of which acquisition, at that crisis, cannot now be estimated—who faithfully, throughout the long struggle for independence, acted his appointed part, whether on the ocean or on the land, whether in the excitement of the battle fields of Princeton, Trenton, Brandywine and Germantown ; in the long march to the Genesee country, in the perilous and fatiguing voyages to and from the

Falls of Ohio, or in the trying and painful journey to the Cuyahoga; and who, when the perils of war had passed, was one of the earliest and most enterprising settlers in that village, which has since become the great and prosperous city of Pittsburgh.

To furnish a copy to all those desiring to possess such a sketch, was the purpose of this publication. It is now issued without any literary pretension, being a mere narrative of some of the actions and services of its subject, in the unpretending style of its author, and, with the exception of a few very slight variations, precisely as it was prepared for the sole and private use of his son.

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ABOUT the middle of the last century there were born in the neighborhood of Hillsborough, in the County of Down, in Ireland, of Presbyterian parents, three children, who subsequently, upon arriving at manhood, emigrated to America; and each there acted not unimportant, though very different, parts in the advance of liberty, knowledge and religion, during the close of that century. These three children were Robert and Joseph Patterson and Isaac Craig. Robert Patterson and Isaac

Craig were of about the same age, both born about the year 1742; were of somewhat similar tastes, and continued to maintain throughout their long lives a sincere regard for each other. Isaac Craig emigrated to America, and settled in Philadelphia about the close of the year 1765, or beginning of 1766, having previously completed his apprenticeship to the trade of a house carpenter, in the city of Hillsborough. Robert Patterson emigrated about the same time, perhaps on the same vessel, and settled in or near the same city of Philadelphia. I have had in my possession, letters from him to Isaac Craig, extending through a period of almost a quarter of a century, commencing in 1766, all filled with the most ardent expressions of friendship. From these letters I inferred, that Robert Patterson, from his first arrival in America, was engaged in teaching, and, more particularly, in the teaching of mathematics. In this vocation, subsequently, as a Professor of Mathe-

matics in the University of Pennsylvania, he continued, I believe, until the infirmities of old age came upon him. He was also a Director of the United States Mint; always a highly esteemed and worthy citizen. Joseph Patterson must have been some six or eight years younger than Robert, and did not remove to America until after he was married, and a few years before the commencement of the Revolution. He subsequently was licensed as a minister of the Presbyterian Church, and became one of the noble band of Pioneers of that faith in the West.

Isaac Craig, having settled in Philadelphia, worked as a journeyman, until, having formed an intimate acquaintance with the active and enterprising men of that place, and acquired a correct knowledge of the mode of doing business there, he, at length, assumed the responsibilities and labors of a master carpenter. In this situation he continued to labor with enterprise, perseverance and considerable suc-

cess, until the breaking out of our struggle for independence.

In November, 1775, he received an appointment as the oldest Lieutenant of Marines in the Navy then being fitted out by this continent; and in that capacity served ten months on board the *Andrew Doria*, commanded by the gallant and unfortunate Nicholas Biddle, who was soon after blown up in the Randolph frigate, in an action with a British ship-of-war. While on board the *Doria*, that vessel formed one of the squadron of Commodore Hopkins, which made a descent upon the island of New Providence, in the West Indies, took possession of the two Forts, Nassau and Montagu, captured the Governor, and seized a large quantity of military stores, then much needed by the American army. Cooper, in his "Naval History of the United States," after noticing the sailing of Hopkins' squadron, consisting of eight vessels, proceeds as follows: "No vessel of any importance was met until the ships



reached Abaco, where the squadron had been ordered to rendezvous. Here Commodore Hopkins determined to make a descent upon New Providence, where, it was understood, a considerable amount of military stores were collected. For this purpose, a body of three hundred men, marines and landsmen, under the command of Captain Nichols, the senior marine officer, was put into two sloops, with the hope of surprising the place. As the squadron approached the town, however, an alarm was given, when the sloops were sent in, with the *Providence*, of twelve guns, and the *Wasp*, of eight, to cover the landing." \* \*

After giving an account of the operations, Cooper's History proceeds as follows: "On this occasion, the first that ever occurred in the regular American Navy, the marines under Captain Nichols appear to have *behaved with a spirit and steadiness* that have distinguished the corps from that hour down to the present moment."

In the above account no marine officer is mentioned except Captain Nichols; but I have in my hands a memorial of Isaac Craig to the "Marine Committee," dated November 5th, 1776, in which he says: "When we, the marines, landed at New Providence, we conveyed no provisions ashore with us, nor had we an opportunity of getting any from the vessels; we therefore applied to one Harrison, who sent victuals for us to the Fort, when we ordered him." The memorial further states, that "several of the sea officers and doctors eat with us," and then complains that Commodore Hopkins had charged the memorialist with one-fourth of the amount of Harrison's bill, and that Mr. Read stopped the amount from his pay. Annexed to the memorial is the certificate of Captain Nichols, that "the statement of Isaac Craig is correct," and that he, "Samuel Nichols," had been charged with the like sum; thus proving that Isaac Craig landed with Captain Nichols, and was, probably,

second only to him in rank among the marine officers.

Engaged in this expedition were several officers who subsequently distinguished themselves; among others, were the gallant Scotchman, *Paul Jones*, and Commodores *Abraham Whipple* and *Joshua Barney*. These were all naval officers, and, probably, were not engaged in the land operations. The writer of this sketch, however, has heard Isaac Craig speak about Jones, and about his great activity, readiness and ingenuity in shipping the heavy cannon and mortars taken in the Forts.

Soon after the return of this expedition to the States, Isaac Craig was promoted to a Captaincy of Marines; and in November, Major Nichols was ordered to join the army, with all the marines, including Captain Craig's company, to do duty as infantry; which duty they performed for several months. In this capacity, Captain Craig was present at the crossing

of the Delaware, the capture of the Hessians at Trenton, and at the battle of Princeton.

About the close of February, 1777, the Commandant of the marines was ordered to take charge of some pieces of artillery, and instruct the men in that service. From that time until the close of the war, Isaac Craig served as an artillery officer.

On the third day of March, 1777, Captain Craig was appointed a Captain of Artillery in the regiment then formed under the command of Colonel Thomas Proctor, in which regiment he continued to serve until it was disbanded, at the close of the Revolution.

On the 11th of September, 1777, he was engaged, with his company, in the battle of Brandywine. In this action his company suffered severely, and he, himself, was wounded, though not dangerously. In the ensuing month he was present at the battle of Germantown; and his company was one of those which cannonaded Chew's house, which was gallantly

defended by Major Musgrave, with six companies of the fortieth British regiment.

The ensuing winter of 1777-8 was spent by the American army in their log huts, at Valley Forge. The sufferings of the troops prior to their getting into their winter quarters, and even while there, were excessive. Washington was indefatigable and eloquent in his appeals to Congress, and in his descriptions of the privations of the army. I might fill pages with extracts from his letters upon the subject, but will content myself with the following, being a condensation of his language, from the History of the United States, by that accurate and unimaginative historian, Alexander Hildreth: "The Pennsylvania Assembly protested against the army going into winter quarters; but the condition of the troops rendered it absolutely necessary. Such was the destitution of shoes, that all the late marches had been tracked in blood—an evil which Washington had labored to mitigate by offering a premium for the best

pattern of shoes made of untanned hides. For want of blankets, many of the men were obliged to sit up all night before the camp fires. More than a quarter of the troops (2898 men,) were reported unfit for duty, because they were bare-foot, and otherwise naked. Even provisions failed ; and upon more than one occasion there was actual famine in the camp."

Such was the condition of the army, as described by a historian who was not disposed to exaggerate. The condition of those officers who had not private fortunes to eke out their scanty, ill paid, and rapidly depreciating compensation, was but little better than that of the soldiers. Yet these officers and these soldiers were all the country had to sustain our liberty and independence against the attacks of the well clad and promptly and well paid troops of Great Britain ; and well and most faithfully and bravely did they perform that duty. Had the fortitude and spirit of endurance of those officers and those soldiers sank under the pres-

sure of the privations they had to endure, how different would have been the condition of these States. No doubt, even in that event, independence would have, at some later period, been achieved; but George III. would have taken effective measures to get rid of all the leading spirits—the Adamses, the Hancocks, the Washingtons and the Henrys of the land, and thus postponed to a much later day a second struggle for liberty and independence.

Surely, then, we owe a large debt of gratitude to each and all of the gallant men who, for eight long years, suffered privations and encountered toil and dangers to secure the great blessings which we now enjoy.

Early in the spring of 1778, Captain Craig and several other officers were ordered to Carlisle, to learn, practically, the art of the laboratory, under the instruction of Captain Coren, an officer of skill and experience. I learn, by a letter signed “Horatio Gates, President,” and dated “War Office,” April 28th, 1778,

and directed to Captain Craig and four others, at Carlisle, that some other officers had previously been detached for a similar purpose to that place ; but, from indolence, false pride, or some other cause, had neglected to give proper attention to the business, by manual labor in the laboratory. Captain Craig, however, was not beset by indolence, nor restrained by false pride ; but labored faithfully with his own hands, while he treasured up the instructions of Captain Coren. He thus became a proficient in the art of the military laboratory ; and his skill was called into action long after the Revolution, in preparing munitions of war for the armies of General St. Clair, General Wayne, and, more recently, for General Harrison.

Captain Craig remained at Carlisle from 1st of February till 1st of August, 1778, and thus happened not to be present with the army during the retreat of the British troops across New Jersey, from Philadelphia, in June, nor at



the battle of Monmouth, which occurred during that retreat. On the 27th of April, 1779, as I find by a letter of thanks from Joseph Reed, President of the Supreme Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Captain Craig was in command of the Fort at Billingsport, on the Delaware, below Philadelphia. How long he remained at Billingsport I have no means of ascertaining, but in the latter part of July of that year, we find him in the army of General Sullivan, marching against the Six Nations of Indians, and their white allies, the British Tories, under the command of the notorious Brandt and the Butlers, in the Genesee country, in New York. These Indians and Tories had, during the previous year, committed the horrible massacre at Wyoming, and otherwise greatly harassed those of the inhabitants who were friendly to the Whig cause.

General Sullivan entered the country of the enemy in the month of August, and on the 29th of that month found himself, with his army, in

front of a “formidable breast-work, artfully and strongly constructed of logs, and extending more than a half a mile in front of New Town, some miles above Chemung, and defended by about fifteen hundred Tories and Indians, commanded by the two Butlers, Guy Johnson, MacDonald and Brandt.” Chief Justice Marshall, in his “Life of Washington,” gives a very lucid and intelligible description of the enemy’s position, and of the attack upon it. He says, “General Sullivan ordered General Poor, supported by General Clinton, to take possession of that (hill) which led into his (the enemy’s) rear, and thence to turn the left and gain the rear of the breast-work ; while Hand and Maxwell, *with the artillery*, should attack in front. These orders were promptly executed. The *artillery opened its fire* just as Poor reached the foot of the hill.” William Earl, an old citizen of Pittsburgh, who was present in this action, related the following little incident as to his first seeing Isaac Craig, who subse-

quently became his townsman and neighbor. He (William Earl) had been despatched by General Sullivan with some message to General Hand, and on his way passed some pieces of artillery, the soldiers standing by, impatiently watching for orders, and close by an officer, looking anxiously at the movement of the hands of his watch. Very soon the appointed time arrived, the officer replaced his watch in his pocket, and the fire commenced. That officer was Isaac Craig,\* and the time, no doubt, that above referred to—"just as Poor reached the foot of the hill."

"The enemy," continues Judge Marshall, "perceiving that they were in danger of being surrounded, immediately abandoned their

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\* Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Forrest commanded the artillery in this expedition. But the enemy's entrenchments were "more than a half a mile long," and as Isaac Craig was the next in rank, there is no difficulty in believing that he, with one portion, was stationed opposite one part of the enemy's line, while Forrest was in front of another part of the same line.

breast-work, and fled in the utmost confusion.”  
“An unavailing pursuit was kept up for a few miles.”

“He,” (Sullivan,) still continues Marshall,  
“penetrated into the heart of the country,  
which his parties scoured and laid waste in  
every direction.”

“Every lake, river and creek in the country  
of the Six Nations, was searched for villages;  
and no vestige of human industry was per-  
mitted to remain. Houses, corn fields, gardens  
and fruit trees, shared one common fate; and  
Sullivan strictly executed the severe but neces-  
sary orders which he had received, to render  
the country completely uninhabitable for the  
present, and thus, by want of food, to compel  
the hostile Indians to remove to a greater  
distance.”

“Eighteen villages, a number of detached  
buildings, one hundred and sixty thousand  
bushels of corn, and all those fruits and vege-  
tables which conduce to the comfort and sub-  
sistence of man, were utterly destroyed. Five

weeks were unremittingly employed in the work of devastation."

Judge Marshall further remarks: "The devastation of the country has been spoken of with some degree of disapprobation." \* \*

Again he says, "There were circumstances which reconciled to humanity this seeming departure from it. Holding the commanding posts on the lakes, and at all times ready to afford the Indians an abundant supply of those European supplies which had become necessities, the English possessed a controlling influence over them, which kept them in almost continual war with the United States."

"The cruelties which they were in the habit of practising on their enemies, seemed to have received an additional degree of ferocity from the virulent malignity of the whites who had taken refuge among them, and who sought occasions to retaliate tenfold the injuries they supposed themselves to have sustained. There was real foundation for the opinion that an-

nual repetitions of the horrors of Wyoming could only be prevented by disabling the enemy from perpetrating them."

Captain Craig, after the return of General Sullivan into the settlements, rejoined his regiment; and in January, 1780, he was with the army, at Morristown, New Jersey. The winter of 1779-80 was one of most extraordinary, indeed, of unprecedented severity; and, in addition to the sufferings from cold, by a miserably clad army, it had also to endure an almost absolute want of provisions, at various times. Washington, in a letter written during the winter, to his old friend, General Schuyler, said, "since my last letter, we have had the patience and virtue of the army put to the severest test. Sometimes it has been five or six days together without bread; at other times, as many days without meat; and once or twice, two or three days without either."

Notwithstanding all these discouraging circumstances, Washington was still on the look-

out for an opportunity to make some movement against the British; and the very severity of the season, which was otherwise so trying upon his army, upon one occasion seemed to furnish him facilities for an attack upon the enemy. The British troops, at that time on Staten Island, were supposed, from the best information, to be about twelve hundred. Information was also received that troops, artillery, &c. could pass on the ice from the Jersey shore to Staten Island, and it was further reported that the communication between Staten Island and the main bodies of the British army, on Long and York islands, was entirely cut off, so that no reinforcements could be sent to the troops on Staten Island. Washington, relying upon this intelligence, determined to make a dash at the last mentioned troops. Lord Stirling was selected to command the expedition, to consist of twenty-five hundred men. The intensely cold night of the 14th of January, 1780, was fixed upon for the attack, and Captain Craig

was detailed to command the artillery, which, by his orders, which are now before me, in the handwriting of Brigadier General Henry Knox, was to consist of four six pounders and two five and a half inch howitzers. He was to leave Morristown not later than one o'clock, P. M. of the day named, and the order says, emphatically,—“Your march must be so regulated as to reach Elizabethtown by ten or eleven o'clock this night.”

All the arrangements having been completed, and Captain Craig having joined the infantry at Elizabethtown, the whole detachment commenced its march, and crossed on the ice to Staten Island; but upon its arrival there, it was found that the posts occupied by the British troops were not only strongly fortified, but that the communication with New York was open, so that reinforcements could be speedily sent over. Under these circumstances, all hopes of successful action against the posts of the enemy vanished, and there being just reason to expect



that formidable reinforcements might speedily arrive, it was determined to retreat. The retreat was effected with small loss; a charge was made by the enemy's cavalry upon the retreating troops, but was repulsed. In consequence of the intensity of the cold, and the defectiveness of the means of guarding against it, some of the men were frost-bitten, and a few were made prisoners.

About the 20th of April, 1780, Captain Craig was ordered to Fort Pitt, with artillery and military stores; he made as prompt arrangements for his march as could be made under the circumstances of the financial difficulties which oppressed every department of the government. The history of the mode in which he was to be furnished with the means of marching, and transporting the artillery and military stores, furnishes a striking illustration of the complications and difficulties incident to a very defective form of government, with serious financial embarrassments.

A letter from Timothy Pickering, dated "*War Office, April 20th, 1780,*" says: "You have herewith an order on the several Quarter-Masters to supply you with the necessary teams and carriages for conveying to Fort Pitt the artillery and stores under your care; and a particular order on Colonel Davis, at Carlisle, for that purpose, and the supply of horse-shoes, or any other articles necessary for repairing the carriages on the way." Towards the close of the same letter, I find the following frank and significant declaration: "*We have no money—nor can get any.* If Colonel Flower, Commissary General of the United States, thinks it reasonable to make you an allowance for conducting the artillery and military stores to Fort Pitt, we shall not object to it." "Forage," says the same letter, "is to be obtained in the usual way, by application to the Quarter and Forage Masters." Another letter from the same, and of the same date, says, "the Forage Masters and Quarter Mas-

ters on the route, are hereby directed to furnish you with the necessary forage, and also to supply you with horses to replace any that may fail on the route. We expect you will use this order *with great prudence and economy, that the distresses of the public may not be increased, but in cases of absolute necessity.*”

Finally, there is before me an order, or warrant, dated 24th of April, 1780, signed by Timothy Mattack, Secretary of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania, which, after reciting the order from General Washington to Captain Craig, concludes as follows: “ Ordered that the Lieutenants, Sub-lieutenants, Justices of the Peace, and others, of the respective counties through which Captain Craig shall pass, do give him such aid and assistance in transporting the said stores and artillery as the occasion may require.”

I have thought that the whole case presented some features, showing the difficulties of the government—such as the mixing up of Con-

gressional and State powers, the frank confession of poverty, the caution displayed in charging Captain Craig, with his company of artillery, not to increase the public distresses by making too large demands—not unworthy of preservation. Yet it was this very government, so fettered and trammelled by a defective confederation, so fearful of oppressing the people, and so poverty-stricken, with the aid of the gallant and patriotic men of our Revolutionary army, who accomplished that great and glorious event which has sent forth two free and independent nations as vigorous rivals in extending civilization and Christianity throughout the world—which has converted the harsh step-mother and her rebellious daughter into two zealous and friendly sisters, striving to excel one another in doing good, thus “provoking each other to good works.”

A letter from Colonel Daniel Brodhead, dated at Fort Pitt, May 13th, 1780, of course while Captain Craig was on his march to that

place, and which reached him near Bedford, says: "I must urge you to exert yourself as much as possible to reach this post before the first of June. It will be very hazardous to come up the Pennsylvania road, wherefore you are to come up the Virginia road; and if you find that the artillery and stores will be too much exposed on any part of that road, you will halt and give me notice, so that a sufficient convoy may be sent you."

Captain Craig, in obedience to the directions of Colonel Brodhead, took the Virginia road, and reached his destination on the evening of the 29th of May. From that time until the day of his death, in May, 1826, he resided in or near Pittsburgh, except when absent on military service during the war, or, subsequently, in the performance of his public duties, or in attention to his private affairs.

In the winter of 1780-1, that active and enterprising partisan officer, George Rogers Clarke, the conqueror of Illinois, projected an

expedition from Kentucky against Detroit. Governor Jefferson, of Virginia, approved the proposed expedition, and wrote to General Washington for a supply of artillery and ammunition. The letter also contained the following request: "To the above, I must add a request to you to send for us, to Pittsburgh, persons proper to work the mortars and howitzers, as Colonel Clarke has none such, nor is there one in this State. \* \* \* They should be at Pittsburgh, without fail, by the first of March." Captain Craig was selected for this service by the Commander-in-Chief. By a letter from General Clarke to Captain Craig, dated "*Crossings*," March 23, 1781, it appears that there was a great deficiency of the necessary stores at Fort Pitt, and it became necessary for Captain Craig to proceed to Head Quarters to procure additional supplies. In that letter, General Clarke says: "I much approve of your going down," and concludes, "I hope that you will have a sufficient length of time between this and

the first of May to complete your business there."

In a letter from General Washington, dated New Windsor, Conn., April 25th, 1781, in reply to one from Captain Craig, he says: "The present state of Colonel Proctor's regiment does not admit of your company being made up to its full complement, but I have, by this conveyance, desired General St. Clair to let you have as many men as will put you on a level with the others. This is all that can be done. I have desired the Board of War to send six artificers to Fort Pitt; you may wait on them yourself with this letter, and ask three or four more, if they can be spared."

All the arrangements being completed, Captain Craig returned to Fort Pitt, from whence he embarked for the Falls of Ohio about the middle of May. What time he arrived there I cannot ascertain, nor, as matters turned out, is it material. General Clarke had relied upon the promises and the gallantry of the people

of Kentucky for sufficient additions of troops and provisions to enable him to undertake the expedition. In this reliance, however, he was woefully disappointed. The promised troops never arrived, and about one hundred volunteers from Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, on their way down, were intercepted, and all taken or killed.

Captain Craig remained at the Falls until the middle of November, General Clarke still hoping that the Kentuckians would furnish the necessary aid. But at length the sanguine hopes even of the General died away, and he consented to the departure of Captain Craig.

A letter dated *Fort Pitt*, Dec. 29th, 1781, to General Washington, from General William Irvine, who was then in command of that Fort, gives the following account: "Captain Craig, with the detachment of artillery, arrived here on the 26th inst. He got up with great difficulty and great fatigue to the men, being forty days



on the way, occasioned by the lowness of the water. He was obliged to throw away his gun carriages, but brought his pieces and best stores safe. He left General Clarke at the Rapids, and informs me that the General was not able to prosecute his intended plan of operations for want of men, being able to collect, in the whole, only seven hundred and fifty.”

The same letter gives, also, the following melancholy intelligence: “A Colonel Lochry, of Westmoreland county, with about one hundred men in all, composed of volunteers and a company raised by Pennsylvania for the defence of that county, started to join General Clarke, who, it is said, ordered Lochry to unite with him (Clarke) at the mouth of the Miami, up which river it was previously designed to proceed. But the General having changed his plan, left a small party at the Miami, with directions to Lochry to follow him to the mouth\* of the Falls.

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\* The word “mouth” is no doubt inadvertently used.

X Sundry accounts agree that this party and all of Lochry's troops were waylaid by the Indians and the British, (for it is said they had artillery) and all killed or taken, not a man escaping either to join General Clarke or to return home. When Captain Craig left General Clarke, he would not be persuaded but that Lochry's party had returned home. These misfortunes threw the people of this country into the greatest consternation, and almost despair, particularly Westmoreland county, Lochry's party being the best men of the county."

The only additional information which I have ever been able to get in relation to the fate of Lochry's party, is contained in an extract of a letter from Michael Huffnagle to General William Irvine, dated "*Hannastown*, July 17th, 1782," which I found in a collection of the correspondence of General William Irvine, kindly lent me by Mr. Henry C. Baird, of Philadelphia. Huffnagle says: "I have just this moment heard that Richard Wallace and one Anderson, that

X See Albion's Western Annals 12. 33

were with Lochry, made their escape from Montreal, and have arrived safe in this neighborhood." This, though a very barren statement, fully confirms the belief that the party were all "killed or taken," as supposed by General Irvine.

Captain Craig confidently believed that his party, on his way up the river, was watched by the Indians during many days, and that nothing but constant vigilance on his part saved his party from an attack by them.

Accounts had been received by General Washington, and communicated by him to General Irvine, that a plan had been under discussion by the British, for an expedition to be conducted by the notorious Colonel Connolly, at the head of a combined force of Canadians and Indians, against Fort Pitt. General Irvine therefore set himself to work to repair the buildings and the fortifications. Among the buildings, it was found that the old log magazine, built when the Fort was built, was much decayed and very insecure ;

it was, therefore, determined to build in its stead a substantial stone-work, and its construction was directed by the late *Captain*, then *Major* Craig, who had been promoted during his absence down the river, to take rank from the 7th day of October, 1781. These repairs were probably completed early in the summer of the year 1782, and information subsequently received shows that it was very fortunate that they had been made. General Irvine, in a letter to General Washington, written some years after the war, on the subject of a communication between the Ohio and Lake Erie, has the following statement :

“ The following account I have from a Chief of the Seneca Nation, as well as from a white man named Matthews, a Virginian, who says he was taken prisoner by the Indians at Point Pleasant, in 1777. He has lived with them since that time.”

“ He, the Seneca, stated that in the year 1782, a detachment composed of three hun-

dred British and five hundred Indians, was formed and actually embarked in canoes on Lake *Jadaque*, (Chautauque,) with twelve pieces of artillery, with an avowed intention of attacking Fort Pitt. This intention, he says, was abandoned in consequence of the reported repairs and strength of Fort Pitt."

The General further says, in the same letter : " I remember very well, that in August, 1782, we picked up, at Fort Pitt, a number of canoes which had drifted down the river ; and I received repeated accounts, in June and July, from a Canadian, who deserted to me, as well as from friendly Indians, of this armament ; but I never knew before then where they had assembled."

In November, 1782, General Irvine received intelligence that the British had established a military post at Sandusky, and were about to establish one either at Cuyahoga or Grand river ; he therefore issued an order to Major Craig, dated November 11th, 1782, to take

with him the General's aid, Lieutenant Rose,\* and six active men, and proceed to Cuyahoga and Grand river, and *especially to the former place*, to ascertain whether any such attempts were making by the enemy. This order is

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*Lieutenant Rose.* The history of this young officer is somewhat extraordinary. He was a Russian nobleman by birth—was engaged in a duel, and had to fly from his native land. He possessed high endowments and genteel manners, and upon his arrival here. received an appointment as Assistant Surgeon in the army. General Irvine, who was a physician, perceived that he was a gentleman in his manners, but awkward as a surgeon, and offered him a situation as an Aid-de-Camp, which he at once accepted, and discharged its duties with ability and fidelity. After the war he returned to Russia, and many years later General Irvine's son received a letter from him, teeming with expressions of gratitude for the kindnesses of the General, and signed by "Baron de Rosendolphe." Dr. Irvine, a son of the General, informed me that the Baron was subsequently appointed Field Marshal of the Province of Livonia. Garden, in his "Anecdotes of the Revolution," vol. II. gives a very favorable notice of Lieutenant Rose.

eloquent in urging Major Craig to be cautious and not to be stimulated by his zeal for the service to venture too far, and concludes by saying, "one man falling into the hands of the enemy, may not only ruin your whole present business, but also prevent future discovery."

The Major, with his party, started on their expedition on the 13th of November, taking with them one horse, with a supply of provisions; they crossed Big Beaver river at its mouth, and Little Beaver some distance above its mouth; thence they proceeded in a direction south of west, as if bound to the Indian town at the forks of the Muskingum, pursuing that course until night, and then turned directly north, and traveled all night in that direction. This was done to mislead and elude the pursuit of Indians who may have followed them. When they arrived, as they supposed, within a day's march of the mouth of the Cuyahoga, they left one man with the extra provisions. It was the intention, upon rejoining this man, to have

taken a fresh supply of provisions, and then proceed to examine the mouth of Grand river, one of the points which the enemy was reported to have in view. General Irvine, in his instructions, had treated it as a point of less importance than the Cuyahoga, but yet worthy of attention. The weather proved very unfavorable after the separation; the Major, with his party, was detained beyond the appointed time, and the soldier, with the horse, had disappeared; so that when they reached the designated place, weary and half famished, they found no relief, and had before them a journey of more than one hundred miles through a hostile wilderness. The examination of Grand river had, of course, to be abandoned, and the party was compelled to hasten back to Fort Pitt. The travel back was laborious and painful, the weather being tempestuous and variable. The party pursued the most direct course homeward; before they reached the Connequenessing, near about, as Major Craig thought, where Old Harmony now



stands, the weather became extremely cold, and they found that stream frozen over, but the ice not sufficiently firm to bear the weight of a man. The following expedient was then resorted to as the best the circumstances allowed: A large fire was kindled on the northern bank of the Connequenessing, and when it was burning freely, the party stripped off their clothes; one man took a heavy bludgeon in his hands to break the way, while each of the others followed with portions of the clothes and arms in one hand and a firebrand in the other. Upon reaching the southern bank of the stream, these brands were placed together, and a brisk fire soon raised, by which the party dressed themselves, and then resumed their toilsome march. Upon reaching the Cranberry plains they were delighted to find encamped there a hunting party, consisting of Captain Uriah Springer, and other officers, and some soldiers from the Fort. There, of course, they were welcomed and

kindly treated, and, partaking of the refreshments in their cases so necessary and desirable, they resumed their journey, and arrived at the Fort on the evening of the 2d of December.

The report of Major Craig was, that there was no sign of occupancy at the mouth of the Cuyahoga. On the 30th of November, 1782, two days prior to the return of the party to Fort Pitt, perhaps at the very time they were crossing the Connequenessing, the Treaty of Peace between the United States and Great Britain was signed at Paris. This treaty, however, had to be ratified by Congress, which was done, and on the 19th of April, 1783, precisely eight years after the battle of Lexington, peace was proclaimed at the head of the American army by the Commander-in-Chief.

The return of peace was accompanied, not only by rejoicings, but by many anxieties in the breasts of officers and soldiers, who, having served throughout the war, certainly without any accumulation of wealth, were soon to be

discharged, and suddenly to be driven to seek some new mode of subsistence, at the very time when every branch of business would be crowded with competitors.

It was, certainly, not strange or surprising that much anxiety should exist at such a time. But, independently of these feelings in respect to their future prospects, there were large arrears of pay due them, the receipt of which was necessary to provide against immediate wants. Congress sympathized, though perhaps not very keenly, with the army in its difficulties, and urged the States to comply with the requisitions so far as to enable the superintendent of the finances to advance a part of the arrears due to the soldiers. Washington, on the one hand, used all his influence, so far as his position would allow, to secure relief for the army, and at the same time made earnest appeals to the pride and patriotic feelings of the troops, to induce patience and forbearance on their part. His appeals to the veterans of

the army were successful ; but, while excellent dispositions prevailed amongst those faithful men, the government was exposed to insult and outrage from the mutinous spirit of a small party of new levies. About eighty of this description of troops, belonging to the Pennsylvania line, were stationed at Lancaster. With the avowed purpose of obtaining a redress of grievances from the Executive Council, they rejected the authority of their officers, and marched in a body to Philadelphia. Upon arriving there, they were joined by others sufficient to swell their numbers to about three hundred. With this force, in military array, they marched to the State House, where Congress and the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania were in session, and having placed sentinels at each door, they sent in a written message that if their demands were not satisfied in twenty minutes, they would let loose an enraged soldiery upon those bodies. Having remained in this situation about three hours,

Congress separated, having agreed upon Princeton as the place for re-assembling.

When Washington heard of this outrage, he detached Major General Howe with fifteen hundred men to suppress the mutiny. Several of the mutineers were arrested, tried by court martial, and sentenced to be executed, but afterwards pardoned.

Washington, when he detached General Howe, addressed a letter to Congress, in which he expressed his detestation of the conduct of the mutineers in the following emphatic language :

“It,” (the mutiny,) said he, “cannot be imputable to, or reflect dishonor upon the army at large ; but, on the contrary, it will, by the striking contrast it exhibits, hold up to public view the other troops in the most advantageous point of light. Upon taking all the circumstances into consideration, I cannot sufficiently express my surprise and indignation at the arrogance, the folly, and the wickedness of the

mutineers; nor can I sufficiently admire the fidelity, the bravery, and the patriotism which must forever signalize the unsullied character of the other corps of our army. For when we consider that these Pennsylvania levies, who have now mutinied, *are recruits, and soldiers of a day, who have not borne the heat and burden of the war, and who can, in reality, have very few hardships to complain of; and when we, at the same time, recollect that the veterans who have patiently endured hunger, nakedness, and cold; who have suffered and bled without a murmur, and who, with perfect good order, have retired to their homes, without a settlement of their accounts, or a farthing of money in their pockets, we shall be as much astonished at the virtues of the latter, as we are struck with horror and detestation at the proceedings of the former.*" \*

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\* I have in my possession the muster roll of Captain Craig's company of marines for November, 1775; also,

Truly, the history of our Revolutionary army, its fidelity and fortitude during so many years of gloom and discouragement, of defeat and hardship, through the heat of the summer and frosts of the winter, through hunger and nakedness, is most remarkable and unpa-

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a large number of muster and pay rolls of his company of artillery, for various months, down to July, 1783. In the first muster roll there are forty-one names. Of these the birth-places of thirty-four are given. Thirteen were born in Ireland, ten in the United States, six in "Britain," one in North Britain, two in Germany, one in Holland, and one in Switzerland.

Of the whole forty-one, but one man is found on the muster and pay rolls of July, 1783. Patrick Crawford, an Irishman and laborer, heads the roll of November, 1775, and his name appears regularly until May, 1783. I should like well to know what became of Patrick Crawford. He was, I suppose, an illiterate man. He entered the army as a private in 1775, and at the end of eight years was still Private Crawford. In an old memorandum book of Major Craig's, I find this entry in 1784: "Aug. 20th, advanced Patrick Crawford, £1 15s." This is the latest information I have about faithful Patrick.

ralleled, and cannot be too often noticed and applauded.

The writer of this sketch, in following one of that noble and patriotic band in his varied career on the ocean, over the plains of Genesee, into the huts at Valley Forge, along the Ohio, to the shores of Lake Erie, and into the battle-fields of Princeton, Trenton, Brandywine, and Germantown, cannot close the account of his military life, without a tribute of gratitude and respect to the memory of that noble band of patriots of which he was an early, modest, but meritorious and faithful member.

The army being disbanded, it at once became necessary for those officers who had no fortunes to retire upon, to embark in some business, to sustain themselves, and to prevent the waste of what means they may have accumulated before the war. Major Craig and Stephen Bayard, who had been a Lieutenant Colonel in the army, formed a partnership to carry on the mercantile business in Pittsburgh,



with the design, also, to deal in lands and lots. On the 22d of January, 1784, by article of agreement, they purchased of the Penns *the first ground that was sold within the limits of Pittsburgh*. The ground thus purchased was described "as a certain tract of land lying and being in a point formed by the junction of the rivers Monongahela and Allegheny, bounded on two sides by said rivers, and on the other two sides by the Fort and the ditch running to the Allegheny; supposed to contain about three acres."

Four months after this purchase was made, the Penns laid out the town of Pittsburgh, and Craig and Bayard waived the right which they had acquired to the undivided three acres, and accepted a deed, executed on the 31st of December, 1784, for thirty-two lots of ground, which covered all the ground in the three acres, except that portion in the streets, and in addition all within the outworks of Fort Pitt.

In June, 1784, Craig and Bayard formed a

partnership with William Turnbull, Peter Marmie and John Holkar, merchants of Philadelphia. This enlargement of the firm gave increased capital and greater scope to enterprise. Branches were sent out—one up the Monongahela, one to a salt spring, within the present bounds of Ohio, perhaps near where Youngstown, Trumbull county, now stands.

The evils of intemperance were not then so minutely regarded as they are now, so that the enterprise of the firm extended to the establishment of a distillery. Major Craig, who had gone to Newport, Rhode Island, with the American squadron, after the capture of New Providence, and there witnessed the performances of their wind-mills, in several letters to his partners in Philadelphia, urged the erection of one at the point, where our rivers meet. The suggestion was not acted upon, but the mere mention of it now, naturally excites reflection as to what would have been the destiny of Pittsburgh without the steam-engine.

In February, 1785, Major Craig married Amelia Neville, the only daughter of John Neville, a native of Virginia, and the colonel of one of the Virginia regiments, who was then residing at Woodville, about eight miles from Pittsburgh, and about one half-mile south of the new stone Episcopal Church, on the Washington turnpike. He had entered a large body of land there, before the Revolution, while it was supposed to belong to Virginia.

Major Craig had a taste for, and a very respectable knowledge of Mathematics, was an excellent carpenter, and was fond of mechanic art generally, and philosophical experiments; and it was, no doubt, because of this knowledge, and these inclinations, that the American Philosophical Society, in May, 1787, unexpectedly, on his part, complimented him by electing him a member.

In September, 1787, an Act was passed by the Legislature, incorporating the Presbyterian Congregation of the town of Pittsburgh. In

this Act eleven trustees were named, six of whom were officers in the Revolutionary army, Major Craig being one. The congregation proceeded immediately to erect a log church on the spot where the beautiful stone edifice is now almost completed ; Isaac Craig being one of the building committee, as he was afterwards in the erection of the original brick church around the primitive log building.

In the spring of 1788, Stephen Bayard withdrew from the firm, and in October, 1789, the Philadelphia partners bought out Major Craig's interest, who then moved out to a farm adjoining those occupied by his father-in-law and brother-in-law, Presley Neville.

He remained there, however, but a short time. When the new national government was organized, his old commander and true friend, General Henry Knox, was appointed the first Secretary of War, and, in February, 1791, offered him the situation of Deputy Quarter-Master and Military Store-keeper at this place,

then really a frontier town, and destined to be for many years a very important post for the distribution of troops, arms and provisions to the forts extending from Mackina and Detroit to Fort Massac, and even to Fort Adams, on the Mississippi. The office was certainly no sinecure ; the policy of subdivision of offices, so as to accommodate many friends, was not understood in those days, and Major Craig's duties were, as will be seen, various, and at times really onerous.

Steam boats had not then been introduced, nor had private enterprise provided means of transportation westward of Pittsburgh. The Quarter-Master had, therefore, to provide flat-boats to convey troops, military stores and provisions down the Ohio and Mississippi; other boats, keels, &c. to convey similar articles up the Allegheny river and French creek to Fort Franklin and Le Bœuf; and horses, oxen, wagons and sledges to haul portions of the same articles from the latter place to Presqu'île, now Erie.

Having served in the artillery during the war, and having given much attention to the art of fortification, he was called upon, at different times, to erect several such works. In December, 1791, he was called upon, by the Secretary of War, to purchase lots in Pittsburgh, and to superintend the construction of a fort, which, after its completion, was, in compliance with his request, called *Fort Fayette*, after that chivalric Frenchman, under whom his brother-in-law, Presley Neville, had served as an Aid-de-camp.

Major Craig also superintended the construction of smaller works at Le Boeuf, Presqu'île and Wheeling. In 1794, when it was determined to establish a line of mail boats on the Ohio river, to Fort Washington, a full account of which may be seen at pages 226-8 of the "*History of Pittsburgh*," the establishment and superintendence of the line devolved upon him. So that his duties were really, as I have before stated, "various, and at times onerous,"

and they were always promptly and faithfully performed; although, during the Whisky Insurrection they were not unattended by personal danger, so that, for some time, he was compelled to go about completely armed, as if in an enemy's country.

In March, 1791, within two months after Major Craig's appointment, an occurrence took place here which, though unimportant in its results, greatly annoyed him for some time, and may be noted as a remarkable illustration of the rapid extension of civilization and the population of our country. A more full account of this affair may be found in the "History of Pittsburgh," pages 208-9, but the following brief notice must serve my present purpose.

A number of persons had been killed, and others taken prisoners, by the Indians, near Pittsburgh, and reports were rife of large parties being seen in the vicinity. This excited great alarm in a town whose population did not amount to one thousand. In consequence of

this alarm, a town meeting was held here on the 24th of March, at which a committee of the leading men of the town was appointed to call on Major Craig to ask of him the loan of one hundred muskets, with bayonets and cartridge boxes, &c. and to enter into an obligation to return the same in good order, within two months, or sooner, if demanded by an order from the Secretary of War or Commander-in-Chief. As Major Craig had no means of resisting violence, if offered, and as he may, probably, have thought the case an urgent one, he took the offered security and handed over the muskets, &c. The Secretary of War approved his conduct, and subsequently informed him that these muskets had been received by the State authorities as a portion of those for which the Secretary had given the Governor a previous order.

What a wonderful change has occurred in the position and condition of Pittsburgh in a little more than sixty years! Our population



now exceeds that of all the Indian tribes in the northwestern territory in 1791; and Pittsburgh, which was then a mere village on the western frontier, is now a thriving city, separated from the Indian tribes by a space four times greater than that between our city and the sea-board; that space, too, covered with cultivated farms, hundreds of prosperous villages and towns, many populous cities, and millions of industrious and enterprising "pale-faced" citizens. The red men, who then roved freely along the banks of the Ohio, the Allegheny and the shores of Lake Erie, are now dwindling away in a strange region, more than one thousand miles from their old homes and the graves of their ancestors.

It was a tradition, flattering to the vanity of Romans, that at the foundation of their city, the god *Terminus*, who presided over boundaries, alone, among all their gods, refused to give place to Jupiter. The republican deity who presides over our boundaries, seems to be equally obstinate, and quite as aggressive. The boundaries

of Roman dominion never receded until after the republican government gave place to that of the emperors. Is our republican government to go on extending our territories until some American Cæsar shall imitate the example of Hadrian? Or, is the Union to fall to pieces by its own weight?

On the 11th of March, 1792, Major Craig wrote to the Secretary of War, "I have contracted for forty-two boats, to be delivered with five oars to each. Price per foot, \$1.17." On the 11th of May, in another letter to the same, he says: "The boats now ready will transport three thousand men; they are the best that ever came here, and the cheapest."

These boats were intended for the transportation of troops to form Wayne's army. In the beginning of November, 1792, these troops began to assemble at *Legionville*, eighteen miles below Pittsburgh, on the Ohio, where they remained until the 30th of April, 1793.

Few persons are probably aware how early the subject of the navigableness of the Ohio river above and below Wheeling was discussed. As early as June, 1793, Major Craig wrote to the Secretary of War as follows: "The navigation of the Ohio is not materially better from Wheeling than from Pittsburgh, in a dry season, and our best pilots say they find nearly the same difficulty until they pass the Rapids, below Little Kenhawa."

This statement was fully confirmed by letters which Major Craig had obtained from Colonel John Gibson and Major M'Cully. Both of these pronounced Letart's Falls the worst place on the river, and Captina bar as bad as any place above Wheeling.

It seems, from the following extract of a letter from Major Craig to James O'Hara, Quarter-Master General, dated September 30, 1793, that, in performing his duty, the Major was placed in an unpleasant attitude in relation to many of the citizens of Pittsburgh.

“A contagious fever (the yellow fever) having raged in Philadelphia for a considerable length of time, and still continuing, the Secretary of War, being apprehensive a part of the clothing might be infected with the contagion, directed me to have them opened and aired at this post.

“I have, accordingly, had such packages as were pointed out to me by Mr. Hodgdon, opened, well aired and repacked. This operation has caused a great deal of ill feeling, and has given much uneasiness to the inhabitants, who feared it might introduce the disease here. From my own experience, however, and from that of Charles\* and Emanuel Conrad, who have for three weeks been constantly employed

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\* Charles Conrad was, for many years, a soldier in Captain Craig's company; Emanuel was a younger brother, and was, two years and a few months later, drowned in a reckless attempt to cross the Monongahela on the ice, when everybody expected momentarily to see it break up.

with the woolen goods, I think there is scarce a probability of their being infected."

In July, 1794, the Whisky Insurrection, which had been long brewing in the western counties of Pennsylvania and adjoining counties of Virginia, at length broke out in open violence. The house of General John Neville, the Inspector of Revenue, and the father-in-law of Major Craig, was twice attacked by armed men. The last attack proving successful, his dwelling-house, out-houses, barn, &c., were burnt to the ground; the mail robbed, and the Inspector, his son, and other adherents of the National Government, driven from the country.

At the very time when these outrages were taking place near Pittsburgh, General Wayne was preparing for his decisive campaign against the Indians. Reinforcements, provisions and munitions of war had all to be sent from Pittsburgh to Fort Washington, and all these were shipped under the direction of Major Craig.

His presence was, therefore, very important, and he was urged by Alexander Hamilton not to abandon his post ; and the hope was expressed, "*that even in the worst event he would find safety in the Fort.*" He did remain faithfully in the discharge of his duty, forwarding troops, provisions and military stores as rapidly as they could be collected. For a short time he was compelled to take refuge every night in the fort ; but each day his presence was required at the river, and then it became a matter of necessary precaution to pass to and fro, between the fort and the river, on horseback, completely armed.\*

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\* In looking over his letter-book, I find that on the 5th of August, 1794, Major Craig wrote one letter to General Knox, which is dated in *Fort Fayette*. On the 8th, three letters, from *Pittsburgh*. On the 10th, two letters ; on the 15th, three letters ; on the 17th, one letter ; on the 22d, two letters, all dated *Fort Fayette*. I think it not improbable that the three letters of August 8th were also written in the *Fort*, and from mere inadvertence dated *Pittsburgh*.

It was, no doubt, intended as a compliment to his fidelity in the discharge of his duty, under trying circumstances, that the office of Commissary General \* to Wayne's army was, unexpectedly, and without solicitation, tendered to him, in November, 1794. The situation of his family compelled him to decline the appointment, but, at the same time, he recommended Major Kirkpatrick, as a very active, energetic person, who would perform the duties with promptitude and fidelity. The appointment was made. Major Kirkpatrick immediately joined General Wayne, and remained with him until his decease, at Erie.

I learn from the correspondence of Major Craig, that the winter of 1796-7 was one of extraordinary severity. The rivers were closed by ice on the night of the 23d of November,

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\* In the "History of Pittsburgh," I erroneously named the office of Quarter-Master General, as the one tendered to Major Craig.

1796, and remained closed until the third of February, 1797. On the 15th of December, 1796, General Wayne died, at Erie, and Major Kirkpatrick, who attended at his death-bed, in his letter, conveying the intelligence to Major Craig, speaks of the weather as "stormy and severe beyond example."

X. In 1797, James O'Hara and Major Craig commenced the establishment of the first glass works ever erected west of the mountains.

In 1798, when the high-handed conduct of the Revolutionary government of France compelled the United States to adopt retaliatory measures, it was considered advisable to construct two row-galleys at Pittsburgh, to be used on the lower Mississippi against Spain, the ally of France. Hence another duty was imposed upon Major Craig, in superintending the construction of the first vessels capable of performing a sea voyage ever built at Pittsburgh. The writer of this sketch has a distinct recollection of these galleys: they had each two

with  
three  
after  
another  
of  
1798  
year

X See preface to 8 Years Sketching of Pittsburgh 1826



masts, with large lateen sails, and mounted one heavy gun.

On the 25th of May, 1798, Major Craig wrote to the Secretary of War that the galley "*President Adams*" was launched on the 19th instant, and was then lying at anchor in the Allegheny. He adds—"the keel of the second galley is laid, and the materials all ready."

In a letter dated July 27th, 1798, he says: "The galley '*Senator Ross*' is ready to launch, but not enough water to float her." The river continued low until closed by ice, so that the galley was not launched until the spring of 1799.

In a letter to the Secretary of War dated April 5th, 1799, Major Craig says: "The galley '*Senator Ross*' has been launched, is now rigged, and will be fully equipped in a few days."

Major Craig, like three-fourths or more of the officers of the army of the Revolution, belonged to that truly honest and patriotic party of which Washington and Hamilton were the

leaders, and not very long after Mr. Jefferson came into power he was removed from office.

Soon after the declaration of war in 1812, his services were again sought for, when the experience which he had acquired as an artillery officer, during the Revolution, and the knowledge of the duties of the laboratory which he had obtained under Captain Coren, were found to be valuable in preparing munitions of war for the north-western army. These were his last public services.

During the latter few years, Major Craig had become considerably embarrassed in his pecuniary circumstances; not by any extravagance on his own part, but by large liabilities assumed for others. For these liabilities, with some of his own, his real estate was all sold, and in the fall of 1815 he removed to a valuable farm, the property of his wife, on Montour's Island, in the Ohio river, nine miles below Pittsburgh. Here he passed his latter days in comfort.

He was born of Protestant parents, and grew up a Presbyterian. His moral character was always unimpeachable, and even during the toils, and perils, and privations of the Revolution, he was an habitual reader of the Bible ; so that when the infirmities of more than four-score years had grown upon him, the approach of the King of Terrors excited no alarm in his breast, but, on the contrary, was anxiously looked for. At length, on the fourteenth day of June, 1826, that visitor knocked at the door, and ISAAC CRAIG ceased to live, at the age of eighty-four years. Two days after, his mortal remains were followed by a large concourse of relatives, friends, and fellow citizens, to the graveyard of the First Presbyterian Church, in Pittsburgh.

Then, by one of those strange coincidences which this world sometimes witnesses, the mortal remains of two men,—who had sailed and acted together in Commodore Hopkins' fleet just a half a century previous ; but who were

widely separated during the entire subsequent period of their lives, by their residences, their associations, their employments, and their political affinities, the one having settled on the seaboard, and the other in the extreme interior frontier of the country,—found their last resting-places in the same sacred inclosure. I mean Commodore Joshua Barney and Major Isaac Craig.\*

Major Craig was a sincere Christian, an honest man, a faithful and diligent officer, a good citizen, enterprising and public spirited, a kind neighbor, an affectionate husband, and a most indulgent parent.

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\* The mortal remains of Commodore Abraham Whipple, a native of Rhode Island, the man who commanded the first rebel vessel that fired a gun at sea, and “hurled defiance at haughty Britain,” and who also commanded a vessel in Hopkins’ squadron, now rest in peace on the banks of the Ohio, in the Mound Graveyard, at the lovely town of Marietta.







